

AMERICAN SINGERS  
REVIVE 'GONDOLIERS'Musical Side of the Operetta  
Especially Pleasing at the  
Park Theatre.

PRODUCED HERE IN 1890

Audience Shows Appreciation  
of Popular Gilbert and  
Sullivan Work.

"The Gondoliers"—At the Park Theatre.

The Duke of Plaza Toros..... Frank Moulton  
The Duchess..... Cora Tracy  
Don Alambra..... William Danforth  
Marco..... Craig Campbell  
Giuseppe..... Bertram Peacock  
Tessa..... Irene Williams  
Cassilda..... Gladys Caldwell  
Lola..... May Naudala  
Anselmo..... Morton Atkins

The Perfect Gilbertian is becoming a rare bird in these days. He is especially difficult to find in a newspaper office. When he is wanted for the delicate critical process technically known as covering a show it is next to impossible to get hold of him. One who professes enthusiasm if not of a Perfect Gilbertian, at least of a well meaning one, gave as his personal opinion of a classic of the two geniuses that it might be all right for to-day if it were jazzed up a bit. Yet we really believed his advance protestations of enthusiasm. Another critical experiment in the face of a little masterpiece of wit and melody received no deeper impression than that the lyrics were neat, even if there didn't seem to be much punch left in the jokes; and so it goes.

The perfect Gilbertian is likely to be old and object to working nights and talk about the pleasure of reading in the past when it comes to going to report a performance of one of these beloved operettas. It was with gratitude that the cooperation of one who gloried in his distinction as a Perfect Gilbertian was accepted. It was thought safer, however, in view of previous experiences, to make a few tests. He was examined on "The Gondoliers." It is best, perhaps, to summarize his experience rather than give the results in questions and answers. Suffice it to say that he remembered the first performance of the work in New York.

As It Was in 1890.

"At the Herald Square Theatre in 1890," he said with the enthusiasm of old remembrances, "not at Wallack's, a mistake frequently made. The original representation was a flat failure. So great was the admiration for Gilbert and Sullivan in those days that the disappointment of the audience could only be laid on the company. The baritone who sang Giuseppe was not the famous Rutland of the Savoy but a younger brother Richard. Down through the whole cast there were similar objections. But one of them, Earther Palmer, who sang the role of Cassilda, became well known later in England and was selected by Sir Arthur Sullivan for the leading role in his opera 'Ivanhoe' when it was given at the London Opera House. Maggie Dugan, the Tessa, had a long career in comic opera in England. So the singers were not so bad as they were thought to be, although there was the usual number of clergyman's daughters in the chorus. They were a Savoy tradition."

Then he went on to say that the advance royalty paid by John Stetson had been immense for the time and that "Gone with the Wind" was the derivative name for the enterprise. Later the company was moved to Wallack's and there were some spectacular effects. The singers were the same. It took a visit from Francis Wilson to show New York that after all it had seen an admirable collection of singers and actors in the production from London. In Philadelphia Mr. Wilson had made a great popular success with the piece. So he brought the company over to New York for a Monday matinee at Wallack's. New Yorkers were satisfied with their own company after that.

Not Heard Here for Years.

As an example of the cruel and unusual things that Mr. Wilson did to "The Gondoliers" it is only necessary to say that at the opening of the second act, omitting the irresistible bit of satire sung by Giuseppe beginning "Rising Early in the Morning," he stepped to the footlights and crowned a negro lullaby while an instrument in the audience imitated the crying of an infant.

It was a bad half hour for the P. O. In spite of the warm affection for the work that developed in a few breaths, it never gained a wide popularity. After the run at Wallack's it was not heard for years.

Of course a man who knew so much was to be entrusted with the task of reporting the revival of the operetta at the Park Theatre last night by the Society of American Singers. It was sung by the same organization last winter. Excluding all questions as to the present significance of the work in view of the growth of democracy he was kept down to a brief description of what the singers were able to do with the work.

The revival as reported by this expert authority preserves in a remarkable degree the spirit of the original work, while it was rendered on the musical side especially well. Frank Moulton and Cora Tracy gave most amusing expression to the efforts of the Duke and the Duchess to capitalize their social importance while the sociological theories of Don Alambra were picturesquely set forth by Mr. Danforth.

Both Mr. Campbell and Mr. Peacock repeated the excellent performances of the two gondoliers they gave last season.

Irene Williams was an attractive heroine and Gladys Caldwell was a piquant Tessa. May Naudala was welcomed back to the comic opera stage as the coy Cassilda. The three almost indispensable cooperation of an appreciative audience which marked the continued success of these rarely delightful revivals.

OLD PLAYS ARE SEEN ANEW.

Popular Dramas of Last Season Revived Last Night.

There is no more agreeable memory of the dramatic season last winter than Rachel Crothers' "A Little Journey," which was played for a long time not only at the Little Theatre but at the Vanderbilt Theatre. Last night the play was seen at the Shubert-Riviera, acted by a fine company and enjoyed by a large audience.

When Mrs. Fiske played the flimsy heroine of "Miss Nelly of N' Orleans" for such a long time at the Henry Miller Theatre last winter it seemed as if all New York must have laughed at this highly comic impersonation. But it seems that some persons did not enjoy the good fortune. Some of them must have been at the Standard Theatre last night, to judge by the enthusiastic laughter of the large audience that gathered to greet Mrs. Fiske in the play.

NEW BERMUDA LINE OPEN.

The Fort Hamilton, Recreated, Inaugurates Island Service.

The departure yesterday of the steamship Fort Hamilton for Bermuda marked the opening of the Furness Bermuda Line's service between the island and this port. The Fort Hamilton was originally the Bermudian, and while in the British transport service was sunk in the harbor of Alexandria, Egypt. After being raised and repaired she was the first vessel to go through the Dardanelles after the armistice.

She has been recreated at the yards of the Robins Dry Dock and Repair Company into a modern liner and has an additional forecastle deck. Converted into an oil burner she will not be held up by coaling troubles. She will alternate with the steamship Fort Victoria, a somewhat larger ship, when the latter goes into commission next month in the Bermuda-New York run.

Fire Record

A.M.—135th st. and Willis av., The Bronx, auto; Towla Taxi Company.....Unknown  
5:30—2247 Broadway; unknown.....Slight  
6:05—494 4th av., D. S. Force.....Trifling  
11:15—1003 Brook av., The Bronx; Harry Brown.....Unknown  
P.M.—2193 4th av., Edward Hahn, Slight  
12:30—140 W. 116th st.; Alexander.....Trifling  
4:55—Delancey and Essex sts., auto; E. & M. Schaeffer.....Trifling  
6:15—128 E. 116th st.; Brawling Co.;.....Trifling  
6:25—128 E. 116th st.; Brawling Co.;.....Trifling  
7:35—Front of 216 Lafayette st., auto; Frank M. Moloney.....Trifling

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AGAIN IN PALACEVibrates Throughout Entire  
Bill, Including One Piece  
Bathing Suits.

NEW MUSICAL TABLOID

Pat Rooney Moves to River-  
side and the Columbia Has  
Good Bill.

Just when jazz seems to be breathing or following its last it takes a new trip on life and emits a noise that is anything but a death rattle. This is illustrated in the Palace this week, where strident syncope is on another rampage, vibrating through the numbers of Blossom Sealey and Vio Quinn and even floating amid the one piece suits displayed by Bothwell Browne and his Bathing Beauties.

Browne's headline act is the same that was presented in the Broadway Theatre recently and also at Brighton Beach, where the police reviewed the performers by arresting them. The revue they present opens with eight bathing poses that are presumptive evidence of what makes the wild waves wild. Then follow various tableaux, an Oriental performance by the Browne Sisters, who also obliged with some jazz on accordions, in case the audience might feel they hadn't had enough of it already.

The costumes are as bright as California sunshine is reputed to be by native sons. The bathing girls would also have one believe that they are worn on the beach of that State, and if so, it's small wonder that the women out there could affect a Presidential election. Browne dances with his heart and his shoulders in his work, and the crowd that swamped the Palace yesterday seemed to feel the applauding his act was a good day's work.

Blossom Sealey, with new songs and costumes, presents her "Syncope Studio," with the aid of her jazz coadjutors and coadjutors, who sing, dance, tell stories and receive bouquets with equal facility. Vio Quinn gives an exhibition of jazz dancing, the best feature of which was her tough ragtime dance in costume with her dexterous partner, Frank Farum, during which Miss Quinn, just to show how perfectly attuned her ear was to snappy syncope, chewed gum in perfect rhythm with the efforts of her own band, the Memphis Five.

A new musical tabloid, "The Little Cottage," has swinging music, a chorus of pretty girls, a shifty, nifty dancer, a very blonde and a loud nut comedian—so what more could the two a day heart desire? Williams and Wolfus present "Hark! Hark! Hark!" and Boatrice Herford has more of her deliciously funny monologues, which are a good nerve tonic after the nerves have been torn to rags by too much ragtime.

In the Riverside Pat Rooney and Marion Post wait themselves into all hearts with "Rings of Smoke." Florence Tempest with a little revue, "Tumble in Love," and James Thornton, with jests that are still as hale and hearty as he is, also get in the way of the spotlight.

The Bon Ton Girls in the Columbia present "Breaking Into Society" while the audience is breaking into laughter.

E. H. Gary Sues Broker.

Elbert H. Gary, president of the United States Steel Corporation, sued Samuel Willets, a real estate broker, at 60 Wall street, yesterday in the Supreme Court, for \$2,100. This amount is alleged to be due on a check to the order of Mr. Gary, dated August 14 last.

PRIEST DIES IN FALL  
FROM HOTEL WINDOWFormer Navy Chaplain Had  
Been in Sanatorium.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8.—As he was about to start on a trip to regain his health the Rev. Edward Bodford Henry, 49 years old, a chaplain in the United States Navy, was killed in a plunge from a seventh story window of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel here to-day. A duty coroner said the priest was subject to vertigo, had an attack and fell through the open window.

Father Henry arrived here to-day with his mother, Mrs. Katherine Henry, from the Sacred Heart sanatorium, Milwaukee, where the clergyman had been treated for a nervous disorder. They were met here by the priest's sister, Mrs. Vincent Kereus, of 11 East Eighth-third street, New York. They were to go to Atlantic City, where Father Henry hoped to recover his strength.

The party left their room in the hotel at 10 o'clock. The two women walked into the hallway, leaving the clergyman to follow. When he did not make his appearance, they returned to find the room empty. A few minutes later they learned of his death.

IMPERATOR TO SAIL ON TIME.

No Delay Expected on Account of  
Coaling Tangle.

The Imperator will sail on time tomorrow on her maiden trip under the ensign of the Cunard Line, according to the line's officials, notwithstanding rumors yesterday that she might have to discharge a part of her cargo because of irregularity in taking it aboard.

The line admitted it had been asked by the Coal Administrator for a list of the loads that had coaled the Imperator and that it had been furnished. It was expected any possible misunderstanding would be straightened out to-day.

DE VOE PROMISES  
RAINY CHRISTMASThis Winter as Mild as Last,  
Hackensack Prophet Says.

The public may take it from Andrew J. De Voe, the weather prophet of Hackensack, N. J., that it will rain all day on Christmas day, that New Year's day will be clear and cold, and that, taken all through, this winter will not be any more severe than the winter of 1918-1919.

Mr. De Voe, who calls himself the "Wizard of Hackensack" and who has devoted himself to a study of weather for the last forty years, gave a lecture on his system last night before the American Institute at the Engineering Societies Building. His system, which is based on observations of cloud formations, can be acquired, he says, by any one who will study it.

Before his lecture last night the sec-

retary of the Institute read a letter De Voe wrote on September 8 exactly prophesying yesterday's weather.

CITY OFFICERS OFF FOR SOUTH.

Chamberlain Berolzheimer Host to  
St. Simon's Visitors.

A group of city officials set sail yesterday for balmy St. Simon's Island, off the coast of Georgia. The party was led by Philip Berolzheimer, City Chamberlain, as host. He owns the island. Among his guests are Maurice E. Connolly, Borough President of Queens; John H. McCoskey, Brooklyn Democratic leader; John H. Harman, Brooklyn Park Commissioner; Albert C. Benninger, Park Commissioner of Queens, and Willis Holly, secretary of the Park Board.

Mayor Hylan, who set the fashion among city officials of taking winter vacations, did not go because of the traction situation. Police Commissioner Enright is golfing at White Sulphur Springs.

Craig to Appeal Against Fine.  
Acting on behalf of Comptroller  
Charles L. Craig, Corporation Counsel  
Burr filed in Brooklyn yesterday notice

of intention of appealing to the Appellate Division from the decision of Justice Manning, adjudging the Comptroller in contempt of court and fining him \$250 and costs.

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